GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:430
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013
EVALUATION OF MPLAD SCHEME
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether evaluation of Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme had been entrusted to the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the impact of the Scheme is evaluated by the Planning Commission;

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the amount sanctioned and released under MPLAD scheme is not properly utilised; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b): The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) has been in operation since 1993-94. Programme Evaluation Organization of Planning Commission had conducted an evaluation of the Scheme, largely based on data and information gathered for the reference period 1994-95 to 1998-99 from a sample of MPs, State nodal Departments, other development functionaries and local people. Its report was submitted in November 2001, in which findings in respect of choice of districts, nature and status of works, recommendation of works and locally felt needs, allocation of funds and quality of assets, execution of works, monitoring and supervision, maintenance of assets, awareness amongst people and perceived impact, etc. and suggestions were given.

(c) & (d) : The report inter alia mentioned that "The impact of the scheme as felt by the knowledgeable persons and local people indicate that about 65% of the created assets have been rated as good and overwhelming majority of them have opined that the created assets are as per the felt needs and has improved their quality of life. However, their opinion about the implementation and maintenance of assets points out to the inadequate arrangements and a need for large scale involvement of PRIs for strengthening the scheme."

(e) & (f): Funds have to be utilized by the District Authorities as per the Guidelines of MPLADS. The implementation of the works has to be undertaken by the District Authorities in accordance with the State Government administrative, financial and technical rules.

Instances of violation of guidelines or rules come to notice from time to time. In such cases appropriate action is taken by the District Authorities / State Governments, including penal and departmental action and recovery / recoupment of MPLADS funds.